Question for written answer E-003104/2017/rev.1 to the Commission Rule 130 Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)

Subject: EU rules can hinder the production of biodiesel using animal carcasses and abattoir waste

The Danish company DAKA produces 55 million litres of biodiesel every year using animal fat from carcasses supplied by abattoirs and farms. This biodiesel is thus being produced using a waste product that would otherwise have to be disposed of in another way, for example by burning it.

The EU wants to halve the amount of biological material present in diesel. However, that would have an impact on the use of animal carcasses and abattoir waste in the production of biodiesel, which is both sustainable and economically sound.

At the moment, at least 7% of the material used in the oil industry has to be biological, for example animal fat or rapeseed oil. The Commission wants this to be cut to 1.5% from 2020. Promoting 'advanced fuels' and new technology, and preventing the use of foodstuffs in biodiesel, are of course sensible courses of action, but the proposal is skewed in that it adversely affects a perfectly sensible form of biodiesel production based on the use of animal carcasses and waste from the meat industry.

Is the Commission looking into these issues?

Is the Commission going to bring forward a new proposal specifying that the use of biodiesel from animal carcasses should not be reduced?